



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Feb. 7, 2008

For immediate release

- 1. DNR to hold volunteer water quality monitoring workshops**
- 2. Most counties decide to evaluate animal confinement sites**
- 3. DNR encourages manure applicators to take training in February**
- 4. Public asked for ideas to improve East Fork Des Moines River**
- 5. UPDATED: potential state actions to reduce greenhouse gases topic of ICCAC meeting February 8**
- 6. Ethanol spill emergency training coming to Iowa**
- 7. DNR enforcement actions**

DNR TO HOLD VOLUNTEER WATER QUALITY MONITORING WORKSHOPS

MEDIA CONTACT: Jacklyn Gautsch at (319) 335-1761 or jackie.gautsch@dnr.iowa.gov

IOWA CITY - IOWATER, Iowa's statewide volunteer water quality monitoring program, will host workshops throughout the state this summer.

During the two-day workshop, classroom instruction will be combined with hands-on training as participants learn how to monitor and assess the quality of their local streams, rivers, and lakes. IOWATER emphasizes a perspective based on the "watershed," or the area of land that drains into a body of water. As workshop participants will learn, much of the trash, chemicals and other materials used on the land will eventually end up in the water.

Water quality monitoring includes physical, chemical, biological and habitat assessments. Physical assessments document the physical attributes of a waterbody, such as temperature and water clarity. Chemical testing includes pH, nitrogen, phosphate,

chloride and dissolved oxygen monitoring. Biological monitoring includes identification of “benthic macroinvertebrates,” or organisms that live in streams, rivers and lakes. Habitat assessments can be used to document the suitability of water bodies to sustain aquatic life.

If they choose to do so, volunteers may submit their data to an online database via the IOWATER website, www.iowater.net. Anyone can view data submitted by volunteers, but only certified IOWATER volunteers can enter data.

The dates and locations for workshops in 2008 are:

- April 4-5 in Poweshiek County
- April 23-24 in Linn County
- May 2-3 in Franklin County
- July 18-19 in Dallas County
- July 30- 31 in Scott County
- Aug 15-16 in Howard County
- Sept 5-6 in Jefferson County
- Sept 26-27 in O’Brien County

Workshop registration fees are \$25 per person or \$35 for a team and cover all program fees, meals and testing equipment. The deadline for registration is one week before the workshop.

For more information or to register, please visit www.iowater.net.

#

MOST COUNTIES DECIDE TO EVALUATE ANIMAL CONFINEMENT SITES

MEDIA CONTACT: Gene Tinker, DNR, at (563) 927-2640.

DES MOINES – Nearly 90 percent of Iowa counties have decided to use the master matrix to evaluate the proposed locations of animal confinement operations that need to apply for a construction permit.

Animal producers in counties that file the resolutions must meet higher standards than other confinement operations with a construction permit. They must earn points on the master matrix by choosing a site and using practices that reduce impacts on the environment and the community.

The DNR has received resolutions from 87 counties that plan to use the master matrix to evaluate construction permit applications. Shelby County passed the resolution for the first time since the master matrix became available in 2003.

The following 12 counties had not adopted a resolution to use the master matrix as of Jan. 31: Decatur, Lee, Fremont, Iowa, Jasper, Keokuk, Mahaska, Osceola, Plymouth, Wapello, Warren and Washington.

Counties that adopt the master matrix can provide input on site selection, and the type of structures and facility management that is being proposed.

Counties that passed a resolution can use the matrix during the next 12 months, ending Jan. 31, 2009.

Producers and citizens can obtain more information and view a map of participating counties at www.iowadnr.com/afo/matrix.html.

Only those producers who must get a construction permit are affected by the matrix.

Writer: Karen Grimes

#

DNR ENCOURAGES MANURE APPLICATORS TO TAKE TRAINING IN FEBRUARY

MEDIA CONTACT: Jeff Prier, Spencer DNR Field Office, at (712) 262-4177.

DES MOINES – Manure applicators should plan to take their annual training in February, according to Jeff Prier at the Iowa DNR.

There are still about 30 training sessions which confinement site manure applicators can attend at local ISU Extension offices. Commercial applicators will need to make an appointment at their local Extension office to watch a video that meets their training needs.

Confinement site applicators can check the Extension Web site <http://www.agronext.iastate.edu/immag/certification/08confdates.html> for a list of the remaining training sessions. Registration is encouraged, and is required by some Extension offices.

Five of the February training sessions will be offered to applicators who work primarily with dry manure. These workshops are three hours long and will meet training requirements for both confinement and commercial applicators, although confinement applicators will need to stay the entire three hours. Current research on phosphorus in poultry manure will also be presented.

After March 1, commercial and confinement site applicators who need to renew their certificates will be required to pay a late fee.

More information on applicator certification is available on the DNR Web site at www.iowadnr.gov/afo/appcert.html. Manure applicators who apply manure from confinements with more than 1,250 finishing hogs, 500 beef cattle or 500 animal units must be certified according to state laws.

Writer: Karen Grimes

#

PUBLIC ASKED FOR IDEAS TO IMPROVE EAST FORK DES MOINES RIVER

MEDIA CONTACT: Allen Bonini, DNR watershed improvement, at (515) 281-5107.

DES MOINES — The DNR is asking Iowans to review and comment on a draft water quality improvement plan for the East Fork of the Des Moines River.

The East Fork Des Moines River is considered “impaired” along a segment stretching from the mouth of the river in Humboldt County to Highway 169 at Devine Access in Kossuth County. High bacteria levels are the main cause of water quality problems in this segment. The bacteria indicate that waste from wildlife, livestock, birds and humans is in the water.

The bacteria drain into the impaired segment of the river from a 1,308-square-mile watershed. A watershed is an area of land that drains into a stream, river or lake. The East Fork Des Moines River originates in Tuttle Lake in Emmet County and flows about 120 miles through the cities of Armstrong, Algona, St. Joseph, Livermore and Dakota City to Humboldt County, where it meets the West Fork Des Moines River. The two forks join at Frank A. Gotch State Park to become the Des Moines River. It’s necessary to improve water quality in this entire watershed to maintain clean water along the impaired segment of the river.

To address this, the DNR has developed a draft water quality improvement plan, also known as a TMDL, or Total Maximum Daily Load, for the East Fork Des Moines River. TMDLs are calculations used to determine how much of a pollutant a water body can receive and still meet water quality standards. The water quality improvement plan includes information on how Iowans can use conservation efforts in the watershed to improve water quality.

Iowans can submit comments on the draft East Fork Des Moines River plan via e-mail, phone or mail. Public comments will be accepted until March 17, 2008.

Copies of the draft plan are available from the following sources, which can also be used to submit comments:

Internet: www.iowadnr.gov/water/watershed/tmdl/publicnotice.html

E-mail: Allen.Bonini@dnr.iowa.gov or Melinda.Buyck@dnr.iowa.gov

Telephone: Allen Bonini at (515) 281-5107 or Melinda Buyck at (515)281-6113
Mail: Allen Bonini or Melinda Buyck, care of Iowa DNR, Wallace State Office Building,
502 E. 9th St., Des Moines, Iowa 50319

More information about water quality improvement plans is available on the DNR Web
site at www.iowadnr.gov/water/watershed/tmdl/

After receiving public comments, the DNR will forward the draft plan to the U.S.
Environmental Protection Agency for final approval.

#

UPDATED: POTENTIAL STATE ACTIONS TO REDUCE GREENHOUSE GASES TOPIC OF ICCAC MEETING FEBRUARY 8

**NOTE TO EDITORS: This is a correction to a previous news release. Previously the
time for the ICCAC meeting was omitted. The following news release provides the
meeting time.**

MEDIA CONTACT: Jason Marcel, DNR Emissions Inventory Supervisor, (515) 281-
4873

DES MOINES — The Iowa Climate Change Advisory Council (ICCAC) will meet
Friday, Feb. 8, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. to review and approve subcommittee lists of
potential state actions to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. The Council will also
elect a new secretary and discuss possible funding for climate change education in Iowa.

ICCAC is the governor-appointed council created by Senate File 485 during the 2007
General Assembly charged with recommending short, medium and long term reduction
goals, as well as developing multiple scenarios to lower statewide greenhouse gas
emissions.

There will be opportunity for public comment at noon and at 3:00 p.m. The meeting will
be held in the Iowa Department of Natural Resources Air Quality Bureau at 7900
Hickman Rd., Suite 1 in Urbandale. The public may comment in person or by calling
(800) 704-9804 and providing the operator with public conference code 484 447#.

The complete meeting agenda is posted at <http://www.iaclimatechange.us/capag.cfm>,
click on Meeting #3, Notice and Agenda.

Written by Mindy Kralicek

#

ETHANOL SPILL EMERGENCY TRAINING COMING TO IOWA

MEDIA CONTACT: Rodney Tucker at (515) 725-0387 or
Rodney.Tucker@dnr.iowa.gov.

DES MOINES — Hands-on training for transportation-related environmental emergencies will return to Iowa in April 2008.

The Iowa Transcaer Ethanol Training Tour is scheduled to begin in Burlington on April 12 and finish in Dubuque on May 10. The training tour will provide hands-on training using actual rail and truck equipment, focusing on ethanol.

“We are excited about bringing this training program to emergency responders across the state,” said Rodney Tucker, Iowa Transcaer state coordinator and DNR environmental specialist. “With ethanol being a major commodity in Iowa, we feel it is important to be able to respond to environmental incidents including ethanol.”

Online registration for the tour is available on the DNR’s Web site at www.iowadnr.gov.

This will be the second recent training tour to come to Iowa to train emergency responders on transportation related incidents. Iowa hosted a training tour in October 2005 that stopped at seven Iowa cities. That tour was based on general rail and highway hazardous materials incidents, where the 2008 tour will focus on the ethanol transportation industry.

“This program will provide the information and guidance responders and community leaders need to manage and contain hazardous materials incidents and safely restore transportation and other essential services,” Tucker said.

The tour schedule is as follows:

- Burlington April 12
- Creston April 15
- Red Oak April 19
- Sioux City April 23
- Storm Lake April 26
- Ft. Dodge April 29
- Waterloo May 3 – 5
- Dubuque May 8 – 10

For more information, visit the Transcaer Web site at www.transcaer.org or contact Rodney Tucker at (515) 725-0387 or rodney.tucker@dnr.iowa.gov.

###

DNR ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

MEDIA CONTACT: Jessie Brown at (515) 281-5131.

DES MOINES — The DNR has taken the following enforcement actions. The following are only briefs; please contact Jessie Brown of the DNR for more information at (515) 281-5131.

Enforcement actions, including copies of the original orders and contact information, are available on the DNR's Web site at www.iowadnr.gov/legal/eactions.html. The Web listing offers orders first taken in 2007 or 2008 (amendments to orders issued prior to 2007 are not listed).

Consent Orders

A consent order is issued as an alternative to issuing an administrative order. A consent order indicates that the DNR has voluntarily entered into a legally enforceable agreement with the other party.

Clarke, Hardin Counties

- Iowa Select Farms, LLP, of Iowa Falls, agreed in a consent order to comply with all requirements for retention of manure at an animal feeding operation and proper manure application, and to pay a \$2,500 penalty. The consent order is in regard to a manure release from a Weldon facility to Chariton Creek in Clarke County. The penalty has been paid.

Clinton County

- Holesinger Grain and Livestock, LTD, of Fulton, Ill., agreed in a consent order to comply with manure applicator certification requirements in the future, and to pay applicable certification fees for 2006 and a \$2,500 penalty. The consent order is in regard to failure to obtain proper certification for services in Clinton County. The penalty has been paid.

Dallas, Boone, Greene Counties

- North Dallas Landfill, Inc., of Perry, agreed in a consent order to establish dense perennial cover on the Greene County portion of its site, install adequate erosion control devices on the Boone County portion of its site, and to pay a \$3,000 penalty and stipulated penalties if deadlines are not met. The consent order is in regard to solid waste violations.

Grundy County

- Kyle Dudden, of Dike, agreed in a consent order to submit a complete Iowa Phosphorus Index Manure Management Plan (MMP) and to pay a \$3,000 penalty. The consent order is in regard to failure to submit a complete MMP for a site in Grundy County.

Henry County

- Steve Carlson, dba Dalarna Farms Partnership, of New London, agreed in a consent order to submit a complete Iowa Phosphorus Index Manure Management Plan (MMP) and to pay a \$2,000 penalty. The consent order is in regard to failure to submit a complete MMP for a site in Henry County.

Jefferson County

- Jeff Buch and Leonard Buch, both of Fairfield, agreed in a consent order to remove all manure transfer piping connecting confinement buildings constructed in 2003 and 2005 with the unformed manure storage structures, to comply with construction standards when installing any replacement manure storage structures in the future, and to pay a \$6,000 penalty. The consent order is in regard to animal feeding operation violations at a swine confinement in Jefferson County.

Johnson County

- Johnson County agreed in a consent order to be in compliance with asbestos regulations for all future demolition projects and to pay a \$7,400 penalty. The consent order is in regard to failure to conduct asbestos testing prior to building demolition at a site in Iowa City.

Lee County

- Custom Hardware Manufacturing, of Keokuk, agreed in a consent order to submit a plan for compliance with certain air quality requirements, apply to have current construction permits amended to reflect additions of machines added to the facility, and to pay a \$4,500 penalty. The consent order is in regard to air quality violations at its Keokuk facility.

Linn County

- Ron Moore, of Cedar Rapids, agreed in a consent order to pay a \$3,000 penalty. The consent order is in regard to contamination from five underground petroleum storage tanks in Cedar Rapids.

Louisa County

- JPP Pork, Inc., of Ainsworth, agreed in a consent order to prevent manure from discharging from its facilities, to remove manure periodically from its open lots and grassed waterways, properly maintain the grass waterways and submit a written plan of action to the DNR. JPP Pork also agreed to pay a \$3,000 penalty and to pay \$157.26 in fish restitution. The consent order is in regard to a manure discharge that resulted in a fish kill in Short Creek in Louisa County.

Monroe, Wapello Counties

- Mark Witt, dba Witt Auto Salvage, of Eddyville, agreed in a consent order to properly dispose of all waste tires; to implement a Pollution Prevention Plan for wastes related to the storage, maintenance and repair of automobiles; and to pay an \$8,000 penalty, or less depending on proper disposal methods. The consent order is in regard to solid waste violations at a site in Monroe County.

Muscatine County

- Muscatine County Solid Waste Management Agency, of Muscatine, agreed in a consent order to submit an operational plan addressing erosion control, litter control and placement of waste, submit a long-term plan of action and to pay a

\$4,000 penalty and other stipulated penalties if deadlines are not met. The consent order is in regard to solid waste violations at the Muscatine County Sanitary Landfill.

Pottawattamie County

- Council Bluffs Industrial Foundation, of Council Bluffs, agreed in a consent order to comply with all applicable asbestos and solid waste regulations in the future and to pay a \$3,100 penalty. The consent order is in regard to the improper disposal of demolition materials at a site in Pottawattamie County. The penalty has been paid.

Shelby County

- Schomers Cattle, LLC, of Earling, agreed in a consent order to submit an application for a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit and to pay a \$10,000 penalty. The consent order is in regard to a manure discharge to an unnamed tributary of Mosquito Creek.

Wapello County

- Golden Furrow Fertilizer, Inc., of Agency, agreed in a consent order to refine and implement its spill prevention plan to address proper storage of chemicals and chemical-tainted water, and to implement employee training and protocol to ensure that no discharge reaches a water of the State. Golden Furrow also agreed to pay a \$4,000 penalty and \$12,358.81 in fish restitution. The consent order is in regard to a spill and resulting fish kill in Crow Creek.

Writer: Jessie Brown